

6 March 1963

Declass Review, NIMA/DoD

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TRIP REPORT

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4. On 27 and 28 February and 1 March, the undersigned visited [redacted] Corporation in Santa Monica, California, to review the engineering drawings for the HTA/5 film processor and to make the final in plant inspection of the Image Enhancement Device, Contract Number [redacted] Task Order Number 1. The engineering drawings for the HTA/5 processor are nearing completion. Information regarding the maximum diameter spools as well as the details regarding the core diameters various widths and flange thicknesses must be furnished immediately to [redacted] in order that the design of the front and rear film console can be completed. This information has not been furnished in the past due to the security aspects of these film spool sizes. It is now necessary and imperative that this information be furnished.

5. Final inspection of the Image Enhancer was completed on 1 March 1963. The prototype instrument which had previously been inspected as a breadboard equipment has now been placed in the final console and was fully operational. Several samples of the output materials are attached. The output materials were examined very carefully by the contract monitor. Although there is some contrast enhancement and area scan filtering, the imagery is so badly degraded by the smear effect of the CRT scan that the imagery is not usable. The spot size of the CRT is the limiting factor together with the triggering mechanism which does not perfectly align the scan lines. A meeting was called by the contract monitor with Mr. [redacted] to discuss this rejection action.

[redacted] was of the opinion that much useful information had been gained during this program but that further improvement of the present device could not be bought with additional time and money and that the contract should be terminated. [redacted] was in complete agreement with this suggestion. It is the opinion of the contract monitor that the time and money expended on this program was well spent and that [redacted] personnel directly responsible for the program conscientiously exploited all means at their disposal to fulfill the terms of the contract and that the failure to accomplish these design objectives is a forthright and honest failure. It is recommended by the contract monitor that this contract be terminated and that further investigation of image enhancement utilizing the [redacted] equipment in part should be investigated. It is further recommended that [redacted] be requested to temporarily store this equipment in their facility pending a final decision and disposition.

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6. In addition to the above 2 items, the following items of possible interest to NPIC were discussed in depth.

- a. Equal Energy Spectral Sensitometer and radiometer.
- b. A high resolution step and repeat printer.
- c. The Electronic Viewer
- d. Cut sheet film processor and dryer.
- e. SPPL Film processor and Data Monitor.

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Development Branch, P&DS

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